

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 2-10, with the following:

-- According to one embodiment of the invention, a covering for a suction hose having a length is provided. The covering has a sleeve and at least one restraint positioned on the sleeve for removably coupling the sleeve to a suction hose. The at least one restraint includes at least one of an elastic cord and cord lock, an elastic cuff, a lash, a ~~Velcro~~ VELCRO™ strap, a belt having a buckle, a strap having a snap, and at least one tie. The at least one restraint is positioned at one end of the sleeve. In one embodiment, the at least one restraint comprises two restraints, each of which is positioned at an end of the sleeve. The restraints are configured to allow the sleeve to be movable along the length of a suction hose. The at least one restraint may be positioned in the vicinity of at least one end of the sleeve.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 5-9, with the following text:

-- The material of the sleeve 22 is preferably rugged, strong, and washable. A preferred material is nylon. The material may be treated with a fabric protectant, such as ~~ScotchGuard~~ SCOTCHGARD™. The fabric protectant can be reapplied to the material after washing. It is preferred that the material is washable in a standard or industrial strength washing machine, such as those readily available at fire stations.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 9-20, with the following:

-- Another type of end restraint, in the form of a ~~Velcro~~ VELCRO™ strap 36, is shown in Figs. 5 and 6. One end of the ~~Velcro~~ VELCRO™ strap 36 is connected to the sleeve 22, such as by sewing, tacking, or other attachment mechanism. The ~~Velcro~~ VELCRO™ strap 36 has hooks 38 positioned at the free end of the strap and loops 40 positioned on at least part of the length of the other side of the strap 36 so that the strap 36 can be wrapped around the sleeve 22 and hose 10, and the hooks 38 can engage the loops 40 on the strap 36 to tighten the sleeve 22 around the hose 10. Fig. 5 shows the strap 36 tightened on the end of the hose 10. In order to move the location of the sleeve 22 relative to the couplings 12 on the hose 10, the ~~Velcro~~ VELCRO™ strap 36 is loosened and then retightened at the desired position. The strap may be made of an elastic or non-elastic material. Nylon webbing 42 is a preferred material. The hooks

38 may alternatively be positioned on part of the length of the strap 36 while the loops 40 are positioned on the free end of the strap 36.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 25-28, with the following:

-- The sleeve may also utilize a pocket 62 positioned on the sleeve 22 for storing tools or other materials on the sleeve 22. A pocket 62 is shown sewn onto the sleeve 22 in Fig. 4. Alternatively, ~~Velcro~~ VELCRO™ straps or other ties or lashes (not shown) may be utilized for holding tools or other materials on the sleeve 22 in a conventional manner.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 22-30, with the following text:

-- In yet another embodiment, the invention includes positioning reflective material 66 at various locations along the length of the sleeve 22. Reflective material 66 will make the sleeve 22 and hose 10 more visible. The reflective material 66 may be in the form of bands, patches, or otherwise. In one embodiment, shown in Figs. 2-4, reflective bands are positioned along the length of the sleeve 22. Figs. 2 and 3 show reflective bands of a single color while Fig. 4 shows reflective bands having more than one color of reflective material. In another embodiment, which is not shown, patches or reflective material are dispatched circling the sleeve, or as patches at various positions along the length of the sleeve 22. Other positions for the reflective material 42 66 may also be utilized, if desired.--